

***NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE
PRODUCT/SERVICE DESCRIPTION DOCUMENT (PDD)
TYPE: Official Product
DATE: June 02, 2003***

GREAT LAKES STORM SUMMARY

Part 1 - Mission Connection

1. Product/Service Description:

The Great Lakes Storm Summary (GLS) is an alphanumeric product providing information on the occurrence of storm or hurricane force winds on any of the Great Lakes. This product is prepared by the National Weather Service (NWS) Weather Forecast Office (WFO) in Cleveland, Ohio for Great Lake waters located within the United States.

2. Purpose/Intended Use:

The product is issued on an as needed basis whenever storm or hurricane force winds are observed and are expected to continue for six hours or more. This product is intended to provide information assisting in the protection of life and property, and enhancing the nations economy.

3. Audience:

The target audience for the product includes: large shippers, barge and tug boat operators; private maritime organizations; recreational mariners; national, state, and local emergency managers; military and government agencies; media; and the general public.

4. Presentation Format:

The product is made available in alphanumeric format and is described in NWS policy documents made available on the Internet at:

http://www.nws.noaa.gov/directives/010/operation_services.htm.

5. Feedback Method:

Continuous feedback is available via an Internet page email link to the program managers in the Marine and Coastal Weather Services. Feedback on this product is obtained at Focus Group meetings, from Boat Shows, and Customer Surveys.

Technical and policy questions, and comments for the GLS may be addressed to:

National Weather Service
Attn: Brian LaMarre W/OS21
Marine Program Manager
1325 East-West Highway, Room 13118
Silver Spring, MD 20910-3285

or e-mail questions and comments to: Brian.Lamarre@noaa.gov

Part 2 - Technical

1. **Format and Science Basis:**

The GLS product is disseminated in alphanumeric format and contains information on storm location and movement, a listing of the highest reported sustained winds for the previous three hours, storm intensity and trend, and a listing of all current warnings in effect.

Coordination between all the WFOs with forecast responsibilities on the Great Lakes is done to ensure the GLS is consistent and compatible with other forecast products.

2. **Availability:**

The product is disseminated on an as needed basis while storm or hurricane force winds are observed and is updated every three hours until storm conditions have ended. The GLS is made available via various means of dissemination such as: the Internet, U.S. Coast Guard Radio Broadcasts, the NOAA Weather Radio, and the NOAA Weather Wire. Additional information on Marine and Coastal product dissemination is available at:

<http://weather.gov/om/marine/home.htm>.

The following WWW Internet site is one location to access the GLS product:

<http://weather.noaa.gov/pub/data/raw/fz/fzus71.kcle.gls.cle.txt>.

3. **Additional Information:**

A description of Marine and Coastal Services policy, area of responsibility, abbreviations and definitions, standards and guidelines, and means of product dissemination for the NSH product is described in NWS Instructions 10-301 to 10-304, and also in 10-312 which are made available on the Internet at:

http://www.nws.noaa.gov/directives/010/operation_services.htm.